(b) if so, the details of the strategy spelt out by Pakistan; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) No Sir. However, the Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, Mr. Shamshad Ahmad, in the course of an address titled "Indian Nuclear Doctrine: Implications for Regional and Global Peace and Security" at Islamabad on 7 September 1999 made a "10-Point" suggestion comprising principally of steps that Pakistan wanted India to take in the nuclear field. Included in these 10 Points were proposals for Pakistan and India to formalise their unilateral moratoriums on nuclear testing into, a binding bilateral arrangement pending the coming into force of the CTBT, and for India to enter into negotiations with Pakistan to elaborate a "Strategic Restraint Regime" for South Asia.

(c) The Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan in February 1999 at Lahore provides for both countries to engage in bilateral consultations on security concepts and nuclear doctrines with a view to developing measures for confidence building in the nuclear and the conventional fields. It may be noted, however, that it has been India's consistent position that measures of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation cannot be limited to an arbitrarily defined geographical sub-region when nuclear weapons by definition have a global reach and impact and India's security concerns extend well beyond that sub-region.

Training to Indian security personnel by United States

333. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any offer has been received from the United States to train Indian security personnel in sophisticated counter insurgency combat following the open declaration of 'Jehad' against India and US by terrorist Osama Bin Laden; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Indian and the US are engaged in bilateral consultations on the problem of terrorism. The two Governments have agreed to intensify cooperation in combating terrorism.

(b) The Government has received no formal proposal from the US to train Indian security personnel in "sophisticated counter-insurgency combat".

Indo-US ties

334. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to improve Indo-US ties; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) The Government has expressed its intention to improve relations with all friendly countries, including the US.

(b) The Government is engaged in wide ranging dialogue with the US Government. The two Governments have agreed to work purposefully, towards developing a broad-based relationship and intensifying mutually beneficial cooperation.

Extradition Treaty with U.A.E.

335. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have recently signed Extradition Treaty with the United Arab Emirates and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) What are the number of suspected criminals likely to be extradited from U.A.E. as a result of the said Treaty?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Madam. The Extraditon Treaty between Indian and the United Arab Emirates was signed on 25.10.99. The main features of the Treaty are as follows:

(i) The Extradition Treaty provides a legal framework for seeking the extradition of fugitive criminals including those involved in terrorism and economic offences from either country. Under the Treaty, extradition would be possible whether the crime was committed before or after the entry into force of this Treaty.

(ii) The persons accused of an offence punishable by imprisonment for a period of at least one year or more can be extradited.

(iii) An attempt or conspiracy to commit or incite or participate in the commission of an extraditable offence shall also be regarded as an extraditable offence.

(iv) The nationals of the Contracting States shall not be extradited to the other Contracting State and the Requested State shall submit the case to its competent authorities for prosecution.

(v) The Treaty provides that extradition shall not be granted if the offence for which extradition is requested is a political offence. Offences that fall within the scope of an international convention to which both India and UAE are parties shall not be regarded as political offences. Moreover, the Treaty also lists other offences that shall not be regarded as political offences.